

# PRESS RELEASES

## News Brief - 7/31/01

[Welcome to WGU](#)

[Return to Press Releases](#)

[What We Are](#)

WGU Contact:

[Who's Involved](#)

Amy Tejral

[Vision, History & Mission](#)

[atejral@wgu.edu](mailto:atejral@wgu.edu)

[Press Releases](#)

### Utah Businesses Make Contributions to Western Governors University National Scholarship Fund

[Newsletters](#)

SALT LAKE CITY - Western Governors University (WGU) today announced that four Utah businesses have made scholarship contributions to its National Scholarship Fund -- Daw Technologies, Inc., Merit Medical Systems, Inc., Sonic Innovations, Inc., and Zions Bank. The university intends to raise \$20 million for its National Scholarship Fund that will provide scholarships for 2,500 teachers from across the United States to enhance their teaching careers with technology-based education and thus increase their use of technology in the classroom.

[Administration](#)

[About Your Privacy](#)

[Glossary](#)

"Support from these Utah businesses for the WGU National Scholarship Fund demonstrates a tremendous commitment to teacher education," stated WGU Founder and Co-chair, Gov. Mike Leavitt (UT). "These businesses are single-handedly reaching out to our teachers to assist them in furthering their education, and thus touching the lives of our students."

[FAQs](#)

Two scholarships donated by Zions Bank have been named after Gov. Leavitt and Utah First Lady, Jacalyn Leavitt. "Zions Bank is pleased to offer a contribution to fund the 'Michael and Jacalyn Leavitt Scholarship' to be awarded to two Utah teachers," said Scott Anderson, president and chief executive officer of Zions Bank. "We recognize the tremendous influence for good our teachers have on the lives of our children, and we are proud to support the technology-based education of Utah teachers. Zions Bank has been a supporter of education in Utah for more than 125 years."

Andrew Raguskus, president and chief executive officer of Sonic Innovations added, "We are very pleased to be sponsoring scholarships for these teachers. We fully support the intentions of this program that will have an impact on our teachers, our kids, our schools, and ultimately on the success of the high-tech segment of Utah's economy."

Michael J. Shea, president of Daw Technologies, Inc., stated, "The whole concept of an online university and the technological implications on our educational system are very exciting. We applaud Governor Leavitt for his innovations and creativity and fully support the university's efforts."

### About WGU

WGU offers the only online competency-based degrees in the country. At the university's Web site, [www.wgu.edu](http://www.wgu.edu), students can find descriptions of competency-based degree programs, an online catalog of quality distance-learning courses, an online library, bookstore, and access to a personal WGU mentor, who will guide a student through his or her customized degree program. Students can use prior work, college and life experience coupled with learning new skills to develop and demonstrate the competencies necessary to earn a WGU degree that is relevant to education and career goals. WGU provides accessibility, flexibility and the opportunity for all students to achieve their educational goals. WGU was founded and is supported by 19 states and governors as well as 22 leading corporations and foundations. Current WGU degree offerings include an associate of arts degree, associate of applied science degrees in IT/network administration and IT/CNE, associate of science degrees in business and IT, bachelor of science degrees in business/IT management and computer information systems, and a master of arts degree in learning and technology.

More information about Daw Technologies, Inc. can be obtained at [www.dawtech.com](http://www.dawtech.com).

More information about Merit Medical Systems, Inc. can be obtained at [www.merit.com](http://www.merit.com).

More information about Sonic Innovations can be obtained at [www.sonici.com](http://www.sonici.com).

More information about Zions Bank can be obtained at [www.zionsbank.com](http://www.zionsbank.com).